

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn up on the basis of the following elements *(the replacement sheets received by the receiving office in response to an invitation according to Article 14 are considered in the present report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report as they contain no amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).)*:

Description, pages:

1-9 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-4 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/3-3/3 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

Concerning Point V

Reasoned statement as to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability; citations and explanations in support of this statement

1. The state of the art, which is described in the present patent application (see page 2, line 5 to page 3, line 9) is regarded as being the state of the art closest to the subject matter of claim 1.
In these passages the applicants describe a dual incremental optical angular encoder comprising the characteristics of the preamble of claim 1. This encoder does not contain any means for comparing the sequences of at least four successive states taken by the two groups of photoelectric cells.
Furthermore the state of the art contains no means for validating the indications given by the two groups if the sequence for one group is either identical or phase-offset by at most one state, ahead or behind, with respect to the sequence of the other group.
The subject matter of claims 1-4 is therefore novel (article 33(2)PCT).
2. The problem that the present invention proposes to solve relates to the monitoring of the reliability of the information provided by the angular encoder.
3. No document of the prior art indicates or discloses the solution presented in the present application. Consequently, the solution of the problem solved by the independent claims 1 and 4 of the present application is regarded as involving an inventive step (article 33(3)PCT).
Claims 2-3 depend on claim 1 and therefore also satisfy, as they stand, the conditions required by the PCT as regards novelty and inventive step.
4. For the proceedings in the regional phase the applicant should, preferably, cite a document reflecting the closest state of the art as described in the application (rule 5.1 ii)PCT).